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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4767
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 3816
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CINCPAC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Izenberg DATE 10/6/81
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN: PRELIMINARY REPORT ON BINH DINH CAMPAIGH APPEARANCE AUGUST 17

1. WELL-ORGANIZED CAMPAIGN APPEARANCE OF PRESIDENTIAL/VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES AT QUI NHON AFTERNOON OF 17 AUGUST

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WENT OFF WITHOUT INCIDENT. A WELL-BEHAVED CROWD OF UP TO 4000 LISTENED ATTENTIVELY TO CANDIDATES AND LIST REPRESENTATIVES. AUDIENCE REACTED MOST WARMLY TO LAST SPEAKERS, HA THUC KY AND PHAN KHAC SUU-PHAN QUANG DAN. THIEU/KY SLATE (AS IN BIEN HOA AUGUST 16) REPRESENTED BY LOCAL FIGURE, WHO SPOKE FOR ONLY A MINUTE, APOLOGIZING FOR FAILURE OF EITHER CANDIDATE TO SHOW. MAI THO TRUYEN SPOKE FOR HUONG, REPORTEDLY SICK AFTER BEING SOAKED BY SHOWER DURING BIEN HOA APPEARANCE

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PREVIOUS DAY.

2. ONLY A HALF-DOZEN US PRESS PRESENT. PROVINCE CHIEF VONG ABSENT; EMBOFF WAS TOLD THAT II CORPS COMMANDER VINH LOC HAD TOLD HIM NOT TO ATTEND. ABOUT ONE-QUARTER OF CROWN WAS MILITARY AND FIVE TO TEN PERCENT WERE CIVIL SERVANTS. MANY NON-GOVERNMENT YOUTH IN EVIDENCE. ONE LISTENER WAS ARRESTED BY POLICE DURING HA THUC KY'S SPEECH, PRESUMABLY AS VC SUSPECT.

3. TRUONG DINH DZU WON APPRECIATIVE RESPONSE WHEN HE INDICATED

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DISAPPROVAL OF NEW BUDDHIST CHARTER. HA THUC KY AND PHAN KHAC SUU BEST-LIKED; KY INTERRUPTED SEVERAL TIMES BY APPLAUSE.

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